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December 12, 1994

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer aaj

RE: Site Inspection, Ziegler Chemical Corp., Ziegler Gilsonite Mines, M/047/013, Uintah County, Utah

Date of Inspection: November 30, 1994
Time of Inspection: 0900 - 1120
Conditions: Clear skies, cold
Participants: Stan Perks, Alan Rabinoff, BLM; Norm Haslem, Ziegler Chemical; Tony Gallegos, DOGM

We met Mr. Norm Haslam at Ziegler's main office. He then took us on a tour to view the facility which had recently caught fire. The fire was located at the storage building/bag plant. The building was completely destroyed. Gilsonite which had been stored in the building became liquified during the fire and flowed down the road like lava. Most of the melted gilsonite has been removed, although some of the lava-like formations are still evident along the road shoulder. Unfortunately, this melted gilsonite is not marketable at this time. The bagging plant and several of the storage bins immediately adjacent to the building were not seriously damaged and are still functional. Mr. Haslam informed us that two of the bins will need to be removed due to structural damage to the support beams. Two persons were seriously injured during the fire. Ziegler has been cited by MSHA for safety violations as a result of the fire. Mr. Haslem did not know what fines would be associated with the citation.

We next visited the Cowboy #1 gilsonite mine. Mr. Haslem could not accompany us because of visitors from Ziegler's corporate office. The surface facilities here are typical of the gilsonite mines, i.e., a head-frame, hoist house, storage room, change house and fuel facilities. The disturbance at this particular site seems to be larger than the usual sites. An area has been graded between the fuel storage area and main access road for some purpose. The fuel tanks stored on site are lying on a concrete pad which is surrounded by an earthen berm. While the earthen berm will protect the fuel tanks from a vehicle accidentally hitting them, the berm would not retain a spill of these tanks due to the porous

soil material. This containment area is not lined with clay or a synthetic liner. This containment may be a concern under water quality regulations or fuel storage and containment regulations.

We then went underground to examine the mine workings. Development at this mine has encountered some unexpected rock lenses along the vein. These rock lenses have caused some complications in operations. We proceeded to the deepest section of the mine and examined the rock lenses. The rock may be the result of some faulting, although this is not known for sure. The surface of the rock contained slickensides. Workers at the mine asked if the Division had any maps of the underground workings associated with the mines located to the west of the Cowboy #1. If these maps are available, they may help explain the rock lenses and predict other geologic features. In addition, a map showing the mine profiles along this vein would also be helpful.

After the underground portion of the tour we went back to the main office to conclude our visit with Mr. Haslem.

jb
cc: Norman Haslem
Dick Wilson, BLM Book Cliffs RA
M047013